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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In RE:

APPLICANT: JACK V. SMITH

GROUP ART UNIT: 1648

S.N.: 09/283,318

EXAMINER: FOLEY, S.

FOR: METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING AND DETECTING AND
NORMALIZING HIV FOR RAPID ANALYSIS

BOX NON FEE AMENDMENT

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Madam:

In response to the Advisory Office Action dated 3/5/01, applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the final rejection based on the following amendments and remarks under 37 CFR 1.113.

Amendments

Cancel claims 1-4, 6, 7, 9, and 10 and substitute new claims 11-18 as follows:

- Contd.*
11. A method for determining the presence of HIV antibodies in an unknown test sample, wherein the said method comprises the steps of preparing a test means by successfully impregnating a solid, absorbant, carrier matrix with a buffer, anti-IgG, anti-HIV antigen conjugated to microparticles, anti-IgG conjugated to microparticles, and anti-HIV that produces a detectable response to the presence or absence of anti-HIV at the assay and control lines on said means, drying said test means, placing test sample on test means, and determining the quantity of anti-HIV in said test sample by comparing the relative intensity of the assay line produced to the relative intensity of the control line.
12. The method according to claim 11 wherein the antibody to anti-HIV can be selected from the group consisting of anti-HIV (I or II), anti-anti-HIV, anti-Human IgG, IgA, IgD, IgE, or IgM.